EDITORIAL

SHERMAN BELL—THE “HERO.”

By DANIEL DE LEON

THE newspapers owned and controlled by capitalist corporations, are
straining every means to make the Cripple Creek dynamiting appear to be
the work of the union miners, and thus justify the repressive measures that
are being used against them. With this end in view, these newspapers are
rehashing all the lies regarding the perpetration of past explosions, explosions
which the miners’ organization has repeatedly shown were the work of the mine
owners or their agents. With this end in view, they are presenting a perversion of
facts relating to the Cripple Creek explosion, that is well calculated to destroy every
spark of sympathy for the miners, and permit the commission of any atrocity that
the State government, led by Governor Peabody, who is, notoriously, a
representative of the mine owners, may deem advisable to inflict on them. In brief,
the newspapers, as usual, are doing the dirty work of the class which owns and
controls them.

When will the members of the working class awaken to this fact? When will
they cease reposing confidence in their enemy, and supporting him morally and
financially, by accepting his guidance in matters willfully perverted to their own
detriment, and giving him their pennies in payment for the newspapers which bind
the chains of wage slavery more tightly about them? When will the members of the
working class learn to support a press of their own, in order that the truth may be
told regarding themselves? When will the members of the working class learn to
support a press of their own, in order that their interests may be protected and
advanced? When the members of the working class answer these questions
satisfactorily they will be on the high road to emancipation!—and the now heroic
figure of Adjutant-General Sherman Bell will have shrunk to its proper dimensions,
and received condign punishment.